

REMARKS**Allowed and Allowable Claims**

Claims 14-17, 19, 28, 29, 35-39, 62 and 63 have been allowed. Claims 57-59 have been objected to, but have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. To that end, the Applicant has rewritten claims 57 and 59 in independent form. Accordingly, allowance of claims 57-59 is respectfully requested. Additionally, independent base claim 56 has been cancelled without prejudice for possible submission in a continuing application.

Election/Restriction

Claim 64 has been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. The Applicant has cancelled dependent claim 64 without prejudice for possible submission in a continuing application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §§ 102 and 103

Claim 56 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,405,359 to Pierce, and claims 1-13, 18, 21-27, 60 and 61 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pierce.

Claim Amendments

As indicated above, claims 57 and 59 have been rewritten in independent form and independent claim 56 has been cancelled without prejudice. Independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-13, 18, 21-27, 60 and 61 have also been cancelled without prejudice for possible submission in a continuing application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicant's application is now in condition for allowance with pending claims 14-17, 28, 29, 35-39, 57-59, 62 and 63.

Reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested. Timely action towards a Notice of Allowability is hereby solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any outstanding matters concerning the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

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